Varsity basketball

Raiders take Liberty game

The Raider varsity basketball team won a heart-stopping 54-53 decision over Liberty High School at Liberty Friday night.

The win came after a 20-foot jump shot by Rick Caldwell with only 20 seconds to go in the game. The Raiders held Liberty off in the game's final seconds to preserve the win, the team's third this season.

The Raiders opened a slight lead early in the see-saw contest, and at the end of the first quarter were ahead, 10-8.

Liberty began to creep back in the second quarter, but with time running out, Dennis Fleshman sank a 22-foot jump shot to give Appomattox a 25-24 lead going into the locker room at halftime.

The teams played closely in the third quarter, with the Raiders stretching their lead to three points by the end of that period.

In the final quarter, the teams continued their neck-and-neck play. Liberty held the lead by a point with less than a minute to play. Then the Raiders got the ball, and Caldwell sank his game-winning shot.

The Raiders were led in scoring by Kevin Ferguson (17 points) and Rick Caldwell (11 points). Gary Ferguson scored 7 for Appomattox, Jeff Miller and Norman Turner scored six each, Ricky Miller scored three, and Dennis Fleshman and Todd Scruggs each scored two for the Raiders.

Leading scorers for Liberty were Clarence Robinson and Marvin Evans, with 19 and 16 points, respectively.

The Raiders made 18 field goals against Liberty, and went 18 for 27 at the freethrow line. Appomattox players committed 16 fouls during the game.

Liberty hit 23 field goals during the game, and was successful on seven of 13 freethrow attempts. The Liberty players committed 21 fouls during the game.

For their performances in the Liberty game, Rick Caldwell and Dennis Fleshman were named outstanding players of the game by the Raider coaching staff.

The Raiders were scheduled to face off against Buckingham Tuesday night after the Times-Virginian deadline. Friday night, Appomattox will travel to Rustburg for an 8 p.m. game. Next Tuesday, the Raiders will play Gretna at home at 8 p.m.

RAIDERETTE VOLLEYBALL TRI-CAPTAINS for this year's squad include (from left) Suzan Eye, Patty Roach and Ruby Smith. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Raiderettes set for '83 volleyball season

Coach Lucy Harris' Raiderette volleyball team has been 'looking pretty good' in practice preparing for next week's season opener, according to the coach.

The Raiderettes, who finished second in the district and second in the regional tournament last year, will open Wednesday (Jan. 19) against Radford at the Jefferson Forest gym at 6:30 p.m.

Returning starters from last year's team include the three captains, Ruby Smith, Patty Roach and Suzan Eye.

Others returning from last year's squad include seniors Cheryl Williams, and Janie Campbell; juniors Kim Hancock, Kim Shupe, Tambra Hamlett, Diann Harvey and Karen Stevens; and sophomore Delores Smith.

New to this year's squad are sophomores Beverly Bennett, Marsha Cheatham, and Sally Coleman; and freshmen Sheila Mullins and Sherry Purcell.

"I anticipate that we'll be fairly competitive again this year in the Seminole District," Harris says of her team. The coach notes that there is an added incentive to excel for this year's volleyball squad. For the first time, there will be a state tournament for group AA high school volleyball teams in Virignia.

"We'd really like to go to the state tournament," notes Harris. "If all goes well for us this season, I think we can."

While the starting lineup for the team had not been determined as of press time, the coach noted that she has considerable talent in this year's group of girls.

"Ruby Smith is an excellent spiker, as is Suzan Eye," notes Harris. "Patty Roach does a good job as setter for the team," she says.

This year's team has more height than in past years, the coach adds.

In the Seminole District, Harris believes that Liberty and Jefferson Forest will be powerhouses. Liberty won both the district and regional titles last season.

"Liberty did lose some of their good players, but they have some good girls returning," says Harris.

As last year, this year's volleyball matches will be conducted on a best-three-of-five-game basis. The matches will begin at 7 p.m. (except for the first two of the season), with a match following the main event played by the girls who did not get into the initial contest.

Following the Wednesday match against Radford, the Appomattox squad will participate in an invitational tournament at Jefferson Forest on Jan. 22. The tournament will start at 10 a.m., with the final match slated for 2 p.m.

"We're hoping that we'll have a good season this year," Harris says. "We're shooting for the state tournament. That's our goal, since this is the initial year of the tournament," concludes the coach.

Victory helps Raider cause

By PHIL AGEE

Friday's 54-53 win over Liberty brought smiles back to the faces of the Raiders basketball team. The Raiders, who have struggled to a 3-4 district record so far, have finally appeared to put things together.

Leading the Raiders so far this year have been seniors Rick Caldwell and Kevin Ferguson. Caldwell is averaging 12 points a game while Ferguson is averaging just over 17 points a game.

Size is a strong point for the Raiders this year. Norman Turner, Bobby Carter, Mike Jackson and Jeff and Ricky Miller are all at 6'4" or higher.

Things are beginning to look up for the Raiders, 3-6 overall. Players are hustling harder than ever and a string of home games against the district's tougher opponents are upcoming.

The Raiders have 11 regular season games remaining with six of these contests taking place in Appomattox. The Raiders will make the district tournament provided they don't finish in the last two positions at the season's end.

Gretna, currently ranked second in the state, is leading the Seminole District. The Raiders, with a string of victories, could climb in the district standings and possibly be highly ranked when tournament time rolls around.

With several home games upcoming, the Raiders urge you to come support them. Games are played Tuesday and Friday nights with the J.V. game starting at 6 p.m. and the varsity game immediately following.

Week's Best in Basketball

Rick Caldwell — Dennis Fleshman

At ACHS

Coaches' clinic set

There will be a Coaches Clinic for the Little League Basketball Teams on Saturday, January 15 at the Appomattox County High School beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing until 12 noon.

Individuals interested in coaching or helping in any other capacity are invited to attend.

Youth, ages eight through 13, who are interested in playing basketball but who have not yet registered are invited to attend and complete registration.

LAST CLINIC BEFORE LICENSE DUE DATE

DATE	TIME	PLACE
Tues., Jan. 18	11- 12 a.m.	Pumpkin Fire House
Tues., Jan. 18	12:30-1:30 p.m	Jimmy's Grocery, Red House
Tues., Jan. 18	3-6 p.m.	Appomattox Animal Hospital

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The Distributive Education Department of Appomattox County High School is now accepting registration for "Essentials of Supervisory Techniques." This class will be covering many areas such as Understanding the New Generation Work Force, Communications, and Assessing Employee Performance. Anyone interested in developing managerial skills should enroll in this course. Present supervisors will develop competencies they use daily and those aspiring to management positions will develop skills to prepare them for advancement.

This 10 hour class will be held January 17, 24, 31 and February 7, 1983, from 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. in room 305 of the high school. The cost is $10.00 per person. The instructor will be Mr. Rodney Williams, Adult DE Specialist. Mr. Williams is a consultant with the Distributive Education Service of the State Department of Education.

For more information or to register for the class, please call John McHale, Appomattox County High School Distributive Education Coordinator, at 352-5317.

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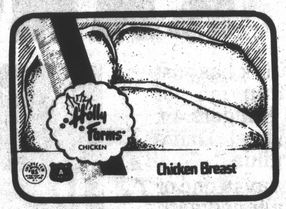

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